

THE DAILY CHRONICLE.

THE DALLES - OREGON.

- STATE OFFICIALS. Governor: S. Penneyer. Secretary of State: C. W. McBride. Treasurer: Phillip Metcalf. Supt. of Public Instruction: E. B. McElroy. Senators: J. N. Dolph, J. H. Mitchell. Congressman: H. Hermann. State Printer: Frank Baker. COUNTY OFFICIALS. Sheriff: D. L. Gates. Clerk: J. B. Crossen. Treasurer: Geo. Ruch. Commissioners: H. A. Leavens, Frank Kincaid, John E. Burnett. Assessor: E. F. Sharp. Superintendent of Public Schools: Troy Shelby. Coroner: William Michel.

A MEDLEY.

The holidays are upon us and the dawning of another day will usher in Christmas, the merriest, happiest day in all the year simply because it is the children's day. Oh! but won't there be early scrambling out of bed, and scampering feet flying to sample the bulging stockings, and tangled hair and bright eyes from which for once, sleep fled laughingly away. And the presents! What surprise, what joy, what intensity of pleasure that only childhood may know or feel, as the good and beautiful things dreamed of by night, wished for by day, are brought to light, filling the wildest desires of hope. God bless the little ones and shield them from disappointment when they wake tomorrow! May their little stockings be filled to the top, and may their little hearts be filled with pleasure and happiness, until the warm blood pulses through their arteries rhythmical with joy too great for utterance.

If Senator Mitchell would like to make the people of this section of Oregon a Christmas gift that would be thoroughly appreciated we can suggest one thing that would give entire satisfaction, and that is a telegram announcing the fact that the secretary of the interior, commissioner of the general land office, attorney-general and all the balance of the coroner's jury that are at present holding an inquest on the remains of the forfeiture matter, had reached a verdict and got off the corpse. We are tired waiting and are almost hopeless of the present generation seeing these lands thrown open to settlement. We knew a boy who was so indefinitely slow that he couldn't suck an egg; it would spoil while he was making a hole in the shell. He was from Ohio, and as we have not heard of him for years, we imagine he has been absorbed in the interior department and runs the lightning calculator branch of it. This department has been so slow that the silent changes of nature and the attitions on the epidermis of the earth have changed the nature of lands, while the lineal descendants of the original locators have passed in their checks, and passed down the evidences of their location as heirlooms. Harney lake has vanished, swamp has changed to meadow, meadow to arable land, the beaches are now a good quality of tertiary sandstone, and incipient Mt. Hood are sprouting in the lang syne swamps. The country has changed but no change has taken place in the interior department. The same old red tape off the same old spool, still holds the current of its slothful and wrath provoking way.

There is no use kicking; there is nothing to kick! The material presence of the secretary is tangible, the secretary himself is another essence. The secretary dies, yet the secretary lives; he is king in this respect. He exists forever! The man who wears the title and manages the brakes, is mortal; but the secretary is immortal. He is the silent center piece in the ghost dance; the unmaterialized incorporeal heriditament dropped down from the dark ages as delicately intangible as the point of Rabelais puns, or a first class case of puppy love. He is above the reach of the rich, and the poor couldn't touch him with a cistern pole. He is an anomaly, an incongruous negative, a chose in inaction. Nevertheless we hope that his mighty essence may evolve a set of rules governing the filing on the forfeited railroad lands, and allow "we the people" to locate thereon, ere it is everlastingly too late.

DEATH VALLEY EXPLORATION.

Secretary of Agriculture Rusk has been for some time engaged in organizing an expedition to explore the famous "Death Valley" in Colorado. This region is a veritable terra incognita. The heat there is so intense that dead animals do not decompose. Water in the valley is unknown, and the expedition will carry water and food for the mules and men. It is a question whether the animals will be able to survive the expedition. Two of the chief botanists of the department are at present working their way into the valley from Southern Nevada, while another expedition is on the march from Southern California, and the two expeditions are expected to meet, if nothing goes wrong with them, at a point previously decided upon in the valley. Professor Merriam will leave in a few days to take charge of the expedition. There is reason to believe that there are rich gold and silver mines in the region named. A story is told by an adventurous miner, who some years ago penetrated into the valley and found the skeleton of a miner, a wooden pail lying near it, and in it a chunk of gold of great value. On his return to California he showed his find to a group of miners, and their curiosity was so excited that they meant following that

tide men with the expedition will make a map of the country and secure specimens of such animals and insects as exist there, if any do. Secretary Rusk regards the expedition as of great importance.—Press Dispatches.

An error in the above article locates Death valley in Colorado. It should read California. It used to be considered certain death to enter the valley which—by the way—is several hundred feet lower than the sea level, but this was born of superstition and has long since proven to be false. It is true the valley is devoid of surface water, in this respect resembling hundreds of other valleys of Nevada, Utah and Arizona, but water is easily found at no great depth, and a canteen or two full of water will last one the journey across it. It is hot there but not equal to Yuma, and no hotter than Marysville or Red Bluff, California, although the story of an adventurous genius who went from White Pine in 1870 to explore the valley, fitted out with an apparatus of his own invention for keeping himself cool, would indicate that he struck a hot wave. This explorer working on the theory that evaporation produces cold, had constructed a sort of a suit of armor, so arranged as to convert carbonic acid into gas. It was provided with a spray pump connected with a tank which was to be carried in a wagon, and which would sprinkle the horses as well as the man. Thus provided, the start was made alone from Belmont, Nevada. Weeks passed and no tidings of the adventurer were heard. A relief party finally went after him. They had entered the valley but a few miles when a glittering object attracted their attention and reaching it they found the adventurous explorer lying on his back amid the ruins of his burned wagon, stone dead, and frozen stiff. The heat of the burning wagon had caused such rapid evaporation that he froze to death in the midst of the flames, and the machine still working, an icicle nearly seven feet long had formed on the end of his nose, and by its glittering reflection had made the discovery of the body possible. We commend the idea to Uncle Jerry Rusk.

ANOTHER APPROPRIATION.

If we could entertain the hope that the work at the locks could be taken out of the hands of the War Department and let by contract we would not favor another appropriation until this had been provided for. It is useless to hope for this, and therefore we must ask further appropriations even though a larger portion of them is squandered. If the work is to be pushed to an early completion another appropriation must be made by this Congress, in order to be available next fall. The farmers are awake to the importance of this question, and they are solidified now, so that their opinions can be made to bear weight at the polls. They demand an open river, and their representatives in congress will do well to heed their demands. As sure as an appropriation is not made during this session of congress, that sure will Mr. Hermann's retirement happen. Politics are badly mixed anyway, and the Farmers Alliance will the next election hold the balance of power at least. That party means business, and will not be put off with political promises, or platform planks. There is a large sized political volcano in Eastern Oregon, and it is likely to become active before some of our politicians get out of its way.

A new explosive has just been discovered called emmensite after its inventor, Dr. E. H. Emmens. It is said to have about the same explosive force as gun cotton, and is not affected by friction or changes in temperature such as freezing, thawing or wetting. It is asserted that a shell loaded with a hundred pounds, dropped on the deck of the biggest vessel known, would destroy it. The problem of the national defense of our harbors is being simplified by important discoveries which are revolutionizing the methods of war. Congress is expected to soon make new preparations to secure the benefit of it.

The North Dalles Office at Portland. The Interstate Investment Company's office at 72 Washington street Portland, Or., is one of the finest in the city, and the citizens of The Dalles are always welcome to make it their headquarters while in Portland. On Friday evening the office was kept open until midnight making out deeds to lots at North Dalles. Thirty days will close out every lot, and in most case to parties who intend building.

The natural gas in the vicinity of Pittsburg is said to be giving out. The leading company engaged in supplying natural gas to consumers, cleared nearly one-half million dollars last year, yet the stock is falling very fast in value. If the supply fails, the plant will be worth little or nothing to the stockholders.

New York has a population of nearly 6,000,000, or almost one-tenth of the entire population of the United States. Pennsylvania comes next with a population of over 5,000,000.

This season's fruit pack is nearly exhausted. Prices are firm for all kinds of fruits and must continue so for the rest of the season. Packers are dealing out their supply in small lots, so as to make it go as far as possible. The Herald of Trade thinks that another season will witness a large increase in the number

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We have ordered Blanks for Filings, Entries and the purchase of Railroad Lands under the recent Forfeiture Act, which we will have, and advise the public at the earliest date when such entries can be made. Look for advertisement in this paper.

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REMOVAL. H. Glenn has removed his office and the office of the

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It is the supply city for an extensive and rich agricultural and grazing country, its trade reaching as far south as Summer Lake, a distance of over two hundred miles. THE LARGEST WOOL MARKET.

The rich grazing country along the eastern slope of the the Cascades furnishes pasture for thousands of sheep, the wool from which finds market here. The Dalles is the largest original wool shipping point in America, about 5,000,000 pounds being shipped this year.

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ITS PRODUCTS. The salmon fisheries are the finest on the Columbia, yielding this year a revenue of \$1,500,000 which can and will be more than doubled in the near future.

The products of the beautiful Klickital valley find market here, and the country south and east has this year filled the warehouses, and all available storage places to overflowing with their products. ITS WEALTH

It is the richest city of its size on the coast, and its money is scattered over and is being used to develop more farming country than is tributary to any other city in Eastern Oregon.

Its situation is unsurpassed! Its climate delightful! Its possibilities incalculable! Its resources unlimited! And on these corner stones she stands.

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